Docket No. 243630US2CONT Inventor: Ken TAKEUCHI et al

Preliminary Amendment Filed: October 31, 2003

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-35 are active in this case, Claims 1, 5-7, 14-17, 22-24, 30-32 and 35 amended by the present Preliminary Amendment.

The specification has been amended to reference all applications incorporated in this continuation application by reference. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, examination on the merits of Claims 1-35 is believed to be in order, and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,

MAIER⁄& NEUSTADT, P.C.

Eckhard H. Kuesters Customer Number

Attorney of Record

Registration No. 28,870

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 08/03)

I:\atty\eHK\amend-Responses\0039\244612US-preamt.doc